

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) A method of conveying a banknote comprising:
frictionally engaging at least three points with the banknote so as to partially deform the banknote, two of the points engaging opposite faces of the banknote; and
moving at least one of the points in a direction of intended movement of the banknote so that, at least during conveyance of the banknote, the points have a fixed relative spacing for any given position of the points and for any given banknote and wherein the at least one point moves to convey the banknote against a reference surface orientated substantially in parallel with said intended direction of movement of the banknote so that the banknote rotates to align the banknote.

25. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 24 wherein the points are arranged in a line.

26. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 24 including moving the banknote relative to at least one point while moving the at least one point.

27. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 24 including inhibiting movement of the banknote if a force required to move the banknote exceeds a predetermined limit.

28. (Currently amended) A banknote conveyor comprising:

at least two surfaces arranged to frictionally engage opposite sides of a banknote so as to deform the banknote and to move so as to transport the banknote along a direction of intended movement,

said surfaces being arranged so that, at least during transport of the banknote, the surfaces have a fixed relative spacing for any given position of the surfaces and for any given banknote,

said conveyor further including a reference surface oriented substantially in parallel with said direction of intended movement, wherein in the event of the banknote being conveyed against the reference surface, the banknote rotates so as to be aligned with the direction of intended movement.

29. (Previously presented) A banknote conveyor according to claim 28 wherein said surfaces define at least three points of engagement with the banknote.

30. (Previously presented) A banknote conveyor according to claim 29 wherein the banknote moves relative to at least one point while being conveyed.

31. (Previously presented) A banknote conveyor according to claim 28 which includes a first and a second corrugated roller.

32. (Previously presented) A banknote conveyor according to claim 31 wherein the first and the second rollers are engageable to create a seal.

33. (Previously presented) A banknote conveyor according to claim 28 which includes a first and a second cam.

34. (Previously presented) A banknote conveyor according to claim 28 which includes three rollers.

35. (Previously presented) A banknote conveyor according to claim 28 comprising means for limiting movement of the conveyor if a force required to move the banknote exceeds a predetermined limit.

36 - 38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently amended) A banknote conveyor for conveying a banknote along a direction of intended movement, the banknote conveyor being arranged to engage a banknote by means of surfaces which define a gap of predetermined configuration which is wider than the thickness of the banknote and of non-linear configuration so as to cause bending of the banknote when viewed in the direction of transport so that the force by which the banknote is gripped is dependent upon the rigidity of the banknote and which acts to align the banknote by conveying the banknote against a reference surface orientated substantially in parallel with said intended direction of travel of the banknote so that the banknote rotates.

40 - 45. (Canceled)